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RELEASE
NEWS

THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION / EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

US EMBASSY STATEMENT ON OCTOBER 9 DEMONSTRATIONS

October 10, 2005

The US Embassy deeply regrets the serious injuries and condemns police violence during the unsanctioned demonstrations in Baku on October 9, 2005.

The Embassy calls on the Government and the Azadliq bloc to exercise restraint in the coming days. We urge both sides to resume dialogue, so as to allow peaceful freedom of assembly to go forward. With only four weeks until the election, we call on all candidates and political parties to engage seriously with the voters in order to win their trust and support. The Embassy believes that the conduct of successful elections is critical to the future of Azerbaijan.